

Greetings for the Day!

Avid Learning in association with University of Mumbai presents ' The Role of Ancient Hindu Texts : Where Hindu Thought Enamates From.' with Shaunaka Rishi Das and Dr Madhavi Narsalay. Please find further mentioned Press Release for the same. It would be great if you could help us with listing and editorial for the same in your esteemed newspaper.

Also, Please feel free to connect with us for any more details or for an interview with speakers on Dhvani Vyas +91 9930134152 or dhvani.vyas@essar.com

### **'The role of Ancient Hindu Texts: Where Hindu thought emanates from'**

"A man may not believe in God and still call himself a Hindu. Hinduism is a relentless pursuit after truth..."  
Mahatma Gandhi

Avid Learning's upcoming panel discussion, '**The role of Ancient Hindu Texts: Where Hindu thought emanates from'** explores the essence of being a Hindu, while rediscovering the ideals that keep this timeless tradition alive and relevant to our lives even today. Join the *Director of the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies, Shaunaka Rishi Das* in conversation with *Faculty of the Department of Sanskrit, University of Mumbai, Dr. Madhavi Narsalay*, as they trace the evolution of the '*Shruti's*' and '*Smriti's*' into the Vedas and Upanishads and examine the constructs contained there-in. The discussion will be enriched with both an Eastern and a Western perspective on Hinduism and will be followed by a proactive Q&A session with the audiences, in the true Vedic spirit of debate and dialogue.

**Date:** Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2015

**Time:** Registration and Refreshments: 6:00PM - 6:30 PM

Discussion- 6:30PM onwards

**Location:** Essar House, 11, K.K Marg, Mahalaxmi, Mumbai 400034

**Entry:** Free

### **About Avid Learning**

AVID Learning, a public programming platform of the Essar Group. At AVID, our constant endeavor is to bring the best of Indian and International programs, projects and events in the fields of culture, art and heritage to our discerning audience. Since our inception in 2009, AVID has conducted over 400 programs and connected with more than 40,000 individuals, a mix of students, homemakers, corporates and creative enthusiasts. Driven by the belief that Learning Never Stops, AVID's multiple formats like Workshops, Panel Discussions, Gallery Walkthroughs, and Festival Platforms create a dynamic and interactive atmosphere that stimulates intellectual and creative growth. Another very important aspect is that the AVID Team is highly driven and thrives on collaboration. AVID has supported and partnered with various arts and cultural events, such as Kala Ghoda Arts Festival, India Art Fair, Art Dubai, Jaipur Literature Festival, Tata Literature Live, TEDx Gateway, Social Media Week, FOCUS festival and many more. AVID also developed intellectual properties Multipolis Mumbai, AVID Spectrum and AVID Ideology which are a series of conversation on how arts and culture are changing in the city. Avid Learning aims to spread Inspired Learning as wide as its resources allow. To get more details on AVID, would request you to visit our website [www.avidlearning.in](http://www.avidlearning.in).

## About our speakers

**Shaunaka Rishi Das** is the Director of the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies (OCHS), a position he has held since the Centre's foundation in 1997. He is a Hindu cleric, a lecturer, a broadcaster, and Hindu Chaplain to Oxford University. Education, comparative theology, communication, and leadership are his main fields of interest. As Director of the Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies he maintains the vision and ethos of the OCHS and encourages the Centre's continued growth and development in all spheres. In this role he oversaw the formal recognition of the OCHS by Oxford University in 2006, and developed the Centre's publishing partnerships with Oxford University Press, Journal of Hindu Studies, and with the Routledge Hindu Studies Series. He has also been responsible for forging formal relationships between the OCHS and Universities in the USA, Europe, India, and China. He is the first Hindu Chaplain to Oxford University in its 800 year history.

**Dr. Madhavi Narsalay**, – Faculty of the Department of Sanskrit, University of Mumbai. Dr Madhavi Narsalay holds a PhD in Sanskrit and has been teaching at the University of Mumbai for more than fifteen years. Her field of interests include Indian Aesthetics, Mythology and Facets of Feminist Religion. Apart from twenty five publications to her credit, she has been presenting papers at National and International conferences. She has edited two books and her thesis has been published in book form with the title 'Epics and Puranas on the Vedic Sacrifice' by Aryan Books International, New Delhi. She has been an advisor to mega-serial 'Mahabharata' aired on STAR PLUS. She was the Curator for the first Mythology festival named 'Aakhyaan'.